AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-14   (Canceled)

Claim 15   (Currently Amended) A certificate comprising:

an IC chip attached to the certificate made of a sheet-shaped medium and storing first information; and

second information and digital signature printed on a surface the surface of the certificate,

wherein the digital signature is generated from the first information and the second information.

Claim 16   (Previously Presented) The certificate according to claim 15,

wherein the digital signature is generated using RSA from the first information and the second information.

Claim 17   (Previously Presented) The certificate according to claim 15,

wherein the digital signature is a hashed sum of the first information and the second information using RSA.

Claim 18   (Previously Presented) The certificate according to claim 15,

wherein the first information is represented by xl, the second information is

represented by x2 and the digital signature is represented by y, secret keys are represented by

d and n, and the digital signature is obtained by the equation

y = (xl + x2) **d mod n, where the function "+"

represents linking of xl and x2 to each other.

Claim 19   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for issuing a certificate comprising:

a certificate paper-accommodating part which accommodates certificates <u>made</u>

<u>of sheet-shaped mediums and</u> comprising an attached IC chip which stores first information;

and

a printing part which prints second information and a digital signature on a

surface of the certificates,

wherein the digital signature is generated from the first information and the

second information.

Claim 20   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 19,

wherein the digital signature is generated using RSA from the first information

and the second information using RSA.

Claim 21   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 19,

wherein the digital signature is a hashed sum of the first information and the

second information using RSA.

Claim 22   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 19,

wherein the first information is represented by xl, the second information is

represented by x2 and the digital signature is represented by y, secret keys are represented by

d and n, and the digital signature is obtained by the equation

y = (xl + x2) **d mod n, where the function "+"

represents linking of xl and x2 to each other.